



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/774,581	02/09/2004	Alaa Elbanhawy	24317/82701	3205
7590	02/01/2005		EXAMINER	
Philip W. Woo SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP Suite 5000 555 California Street San Francisco, CA 94104-1715			ZWEIZIG, JEFFERY SHAWN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2816	
DATE MAILED: 02/01/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/774,581	ELBANHAWY, ALAA 
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Jeffrey S. Zweizig	2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 February 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-15 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 7 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 14 July 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/9/04.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stanescu et al. (USPN 6,518,737).

Fig. 2 discloses an input terminal Vin, an output terminal Vout, an inherent load, a gate modulated diode 24, and a first operational amplifier 104 with a low supply voltage Vin as recited in claim 1.

Further shown is a MOSFET 24 as recited in claim 3.

The supply voltage and the input voltage are the same Vin as recited in claim 4.

Further shown is a second operation amplifier 102 providing a reference voltage to the first operational amplifier 104 as recited in claim 6.

Further shown is a capacitor 40 as recited in claim 8.

Claims 9, 11, 12, 14 and 15 are anticipated for the reasons above.

3. Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sichert et al. (USPN 6,133,779).

The Figure discloses an input terminal Vext, an output terminal Vint, an inherent load, a gate modulated diode T, and a first operational amplifier OP with a low supply voltage Vext as recited in claim 1.

Further shown is a MOSFET T as recited in claim 3.

The supply voltage and the input voltage are the same Vext as recited in claim 4.

Further shown is a capacitor C as recited in claim 8.

Claims 9, 11, 12, 14 and 15 are anticipated for the reasons above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2, 5, 10 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stanescu et al..

Stanescu et al. does not appear to disclose the specific supply and output voltages recited in claims 2, 5, 10 and 13. However, supply voltages of 1.2 volts and regulated output voltages of 1 volt are now common and readily attainable by those of

ordinary skill in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to miniaturize the circuit disclosed by Stanescu et al. for the benefit of regulating voltages in modern low voltage environments. Claims 2, 5, 10 and 13 are obvious.

6. Claims 2, 5, 10 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sichert et al..

Sichert et al. does not appear to disclose the specific supply and output voltages recited in claims 2, 5, 10 and 13. However, supply voltages of 1.2 volts and regulated output voltages of 1 volt are now common and readily attainable by those of ordinary skill in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to miniaturize the circuit disclosed by Sichert et al. for the benefit of regulating voltages in modern low voltage environments. Claims 2, 5, 10 and 13 are obvious.

Conclusion

7. Claim 7 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but may be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey S. Zweizig whose telephone number is (571)

Art Unit: 2816

272-1758. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday 6:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan can be reached on (571) 272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jeffrey S. Zweizig
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2816

JZ